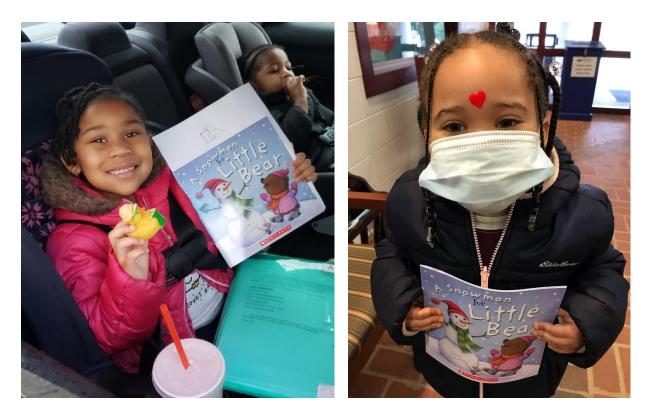


## \*\*\* FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE \*\*\*

## **Cumberland Elementary Preschoolers Get First Book**

**Charlottesville, Virginia** (2/1/2021) – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia, Inc. (QCV) is pleased to report that 66 preschoolers at Cumberland Elementary School recently received the first of eight book distributions they will receive over the coming weeks as part of QCV's <u>Racquets for Reading!!!</u> initiative. The books and other FUN giveaways were made possible by a grant from the Scherer Foundation and the generosity of donors Mary Gregorie Burns, Nicole Samulka and Jonathan Harrill. The first book, *A Snowman for Little Bear*, was accompanied by rubber duckies.



An email from Early Childhood Special Educator Kathy McCutcheon and the school's Pre-K team says, "Our Pre-kindergarten children were so excited to receive their first book from your program! Unfortunately, we were not able to take a lot of pictures while handing them out (it was pouring rain the day of our drive-through distribution), but we did snap a few, and families have happily shared pictures of the kids enjoying their new books at home. I am attaching some pictures for you and the other kind contributors. We know the pictures say thank you best! We hope you know what a difference you have made in the lives of our little ones. Early experiences with books, as you know, set kids up for success for many years so the benefits of your gift now will be seen throughout the years to come. Thank you again."

QCV QuickStart Coordinator Lynda Harrill adds, "I start smiling immediately when I see an email coming from Cumberland Elementary. I know it's going to make my day. The people there are so positive and know how to maximize the benefits of what they have to work with. They are so resourceful, upbeat and appreciative. Putting a smile on the face of a preschooler during these crazy times is a gift. Even if they're wearing a mask, I can see their eyes smiling. We looking forward to seeing all the books and giveaways being handed out and a lot more smiles."



Please visit our website to learn more about what QCV is doing to promote early childhood literacy for preschoolers and kindergartners through our <u>Racquets for Reading!!!</u> initiative.

## Want to be a great adult? Play tennis! Read books! Eat healthy! Have FUN!!! Be a QuickStart kid!

QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia is an all-volunteer, grassroots Community Tennis Association established in 2009 as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization to promote, develop and grow QuickStart Tennis in the heart of Virginia for all beginners, especially underserved youth, using the kid-sized QuickStart Tennis format.

QCV's service area includes Albemarle, Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Charlotte, Culpeper, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fluvanna, Franklin, Greene, Greensville, Halifax, Henry, Louisa, Lunenburg, Madison, Mecklenburg, Nelson, Nottoway, Orange, Patrick, Pittsylvania, Prince Edward, Powhatan and Rappahannock counties and the cities of Charlottesville, Danville and Martinsville, plus under a special arrangement, King George County. We currently serve 212 schools with 99,000 kids, 15 parks & recreation departments, three Boys & Girls Clubs and two YMCAs in 27 counties and three independent cities. We have also gotten tennis into PE classes in 37 additional schools with 16,000 students in communities outside our service area.

Visit QCV at <u>www.quickstartcentral.org</u> and on <u>Facebook</u>. For additional information, contact <u>quickstartcentral@comcast.net.10</u>



A racquet in every hand! A smile on every face!



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